

Appl. No.: 10/234,515  
Filed: September 5, 2002  
Amdt. Dated January 3, 2008

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) [[A]] An annular dome switch having:  
an upper dome sheet; and  
an underlying substrate;  
wherein the upper dome sheet extends from the underlying substrate defining a raised cross-sectional shape, the raised cross-sectional shape a-shape extending at least substantially along a length of an annular shaped path, wherein the path is circular in shape.
2. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The annular dome switch as claimed in claim 1, wherein said dome switch surrounds at least one other dome switch.
3. (Currently amended) [[A]] The annular dome switch as claimed in claim 1, wherein said dome switch comprises a partial annulus.
4. (Currently amended) [[A]] The annular dome switch as claimed in claim 1, wherein said dome switch comprises a complete annulus.
5. (Deleted)
6. (Currently amended) [[A]] The annular dome switch as claimed in claim 1, wherein a select means is activated upon actuation of the annular dome switch.
7. (Currently amended) [[A]] The annular dome switch as claimed in claim 1, wherein a rotator wheel is mounted on said annular dome switch.
8. (Currently amended) [[A]] The annular dome switch as claimed in claim 7, wherein the dome switch is actuated when a pressure is applied to an upper surface of the rotator wheel in a

direction substantially parallel to an axis perpendicular to the upper planar surface of the rotator wheel.

9. (Currently amended) [[A]] The annular dome switch as claimed in claim 7, wherein an upper planar surface of the rotator wheel is substantially annular in shape.

10. (Currently amended) [[A]] The annular dome switch as claimed in claim 7, wherein an upper planar surface of the rotator wheel is exposed such that the upper planar surface may be accessed by a user.

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11. (Currently amended) [[A]] The annular dome switch as claimed in claim 7, wherein the rotator wheel is connected to monitoring means for detecting rotational movement of the rotator wheel about an axis perpendicular to an upper planar surface of the rotator wheel.

12. (Currently amended) An input apparatus comprising an annular dome switch as claimed in claim 1.

13. (Previously presented) An input apparatus for a multimedia device, said input apparatus comprising:

a rotator wheel having an upper planar surface that is substantially annular in shape and exposed in order that the upper planar surface may be accessed by a user of the multimedia device;

means for detecting rotational movement of the rotator wheel about an axis perpendicular to the upper planar surface of the rotator wheel; and

select means activated when a pressure is applied to the upper surface of the rotator wheel in a direction substantially parallel to an axis perpendicular to the upper planar surface of the rotator wheel.

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14. (Currently amended) [[An]] The input apparatus as claimed in claim 13, further comprising means to detect rotational movement of the rotator wheel.
15. (Currently amended) [[An]] The input apparatus as claimed in claim 14, wherein the means to detect rotational movement comprises conductive tracks.
16. (Currently amended) [[An]] The input apparatus as claimed in claim 13 in which a bridge contact is arranged to rotate in conjunction with the wheel.
17. (Currently amended) [[An]] The input apparatus as claimed in claim 13, wherein a tactile response of the select means is substantially the same over all of the rotator wheel.
18. (Currently amended) [[An]] The input apparatus as claimed in claim 12, wherein activation of the dome switch comprises temporarily modifying the electrically conductive or electrically capacitive properties of an electronic element.
19. (New) The input apparatus of claim 13, wherein the select means is an annular dome switch, the annular dome switch comprising:
  - an upper dome sheet; and
  - an underlying substrate;wherein the upper dome sheet extends from the underlying substrate defining a raised cross-section shape, the raised cross-section shape extending at least substantially along a length of an annular shaped path.